

REFLECTION GROUPS AND DIFFERENTIAL FORMS

JULIA HARTMANN AND ANNE V. SHEPLER

ABSTRACT. We study differential forms invariant under a finite reflection group over a field of arbitrary characteristic. In particular, we prove an analogue of Saito's freeness criterion for invariant differential 1-forms. We also discuss how twisted wedging endows the invariant forms with the structure of a free exterior algebra in certain cases. Some of the results are extended to the case of relative invariants with respect to a linear character.

1. INTRODUCTION

The classical study of reflection groups (in characteristic zero) uses the theory of hyperplane arrangements to exhibit natural structures on the sets of invariant polynomials, derivations, and differential forms. In this article, we begin a theory linking hyperplane arrangements and invariant forms for reflection groups over arbitrary fields.

Let V be an n -dimensional vector space over a field \mathbb{F} , and let $G \leq \mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F})$ be a finite group. Let $\mathbb{F}[V] = S(V^*)$, the ring of polynomials on V . We consider the $\mathbb{F}[V]$ -modules of differential k -forms,

$$\Omega^k := \mathbb{F}[V] \otimes \Lambda^k(V^*),$$

and more generally, the module of differential forms, $\Omega := \bigoplus_k \Omega^k$. We are interested in the invariants under the action of G on these modules. Invariant (and relatively invariant) differential forms have applications to various areas of mathematics, for example, dynamical systems (see [6] and [4]), group cohomology (see [1]), symplectic reflection algebras and Hecke algebras (see [7] and [17]), topology of complement spaces (see [14] and [16]), and Riemannian manifolds (see [11]).

We determine the rank of $(\Omega^1)^G$ over an arbitrary field in Theorem 1. We then restrict our attention to the case when G is generated by reflections. When the characteristic of \mathbb{F} is coprime to the group order (the **nonmodular** case), the ring of invariant polynomials $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ forms a polynomial algebra: $\mathbb{F}[V]^G = \mathbb{F}[f_1, \dots, f_n]$ for some algebraically independent polynomials f_i in $\mathbb{F}[V]$. We say that G has **polynomial invariants** if $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ has this form and we call the polynomials f_i **basic invariants**. Solomon [20] showed that the exterior derivatives df_1, \dots, df_n generate the set of invariant differential forms Ω^G as an exterior algebra in the nonmodular setting:

$$\Omega^G = \mathbb{F}[f_1, \dots, f_n] \otimes \Lambda(df_1, \dots, df_n).$$

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In the modular case, when the characteristic of \mathbb{F} divides the group order, a reflection group may fail to have polynomial invariants. Even when the invariants $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ do form a polynomial algebra, the exterior derivatives df_1, \dots, df_n of basic invariants f_1, \dots, f_n may fail to generate $(\Omega^1)^G$ as an $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module, in which case they will certainly not generate Ω^G as an algebra under the usual wedging of forms (see Section 6 for an example). Hartmann [8] showed that Solomon's theorem holds for groups with polynomial invariants if and only if the group G contains no transvections.

We investigate the invariant theory in the general case (when G may contain transvections) and explore two fundamental questions:

- (1) When is the module of invariant 1-forms free over the invariant ring $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$?
- (2) When is the module of invariant forms a free exterior algebra, i.e., when is $\Omega^G = \mathbb{F}[V]^G \otimes \Lambda(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)$ for some 1-forms ω_i ?

In Theorem 7, we address the first question by giving a criterion for when a set of invariant 1-forms generates $(\Omega^1)^G$ as a free module over $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$. In Theorem 10, we show that a maximality condition on the root spaces allows one to endow Ω^G with the structure of a free exterior algebra. The exterior algebra structure emerges from a twisted wedging operator introduced (for nonmodular groups) by Shepler [15]. (Beck [2] uses twisted wedging to extend results in a different direction in the nonmodular case.) In Section 7, we generalize Theorem 7 to the case of forms which are invariant with respect to a linear character of the group G .

We include a special analysis for three classes of reflection groups: groups fixing a single hyperplane pointwise, groups containing the special linear group, and unipotent groups. In all these cases, we observe that $(\Omega^1)^G$ is free as an $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module. Furthermore, our examples suggest a strategy for producing generators from the exterior derivatives df_1, \dots, df_n of a choice of basic invariants f_1, \dots, f_n for G , and this strategy is related to the geometry of the reflecting hyperplanes (see Section 6). It is therefore natural to ask whether $(\Omega^1)^G$ is *always* a free $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module when G is a reflection group. This question remains open.

Note: Since the set of differential forms in characteristic 2 is a truncated polynomial algebra, we exclude that case from our considerations throughout.

2. THE RANK OF INVARIANT DIFFERENTIAL FORMS

Before restricting to the case of reflection groups, we compute the rank of $(\Omega^1)^G$ when $G \leq \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F})$ is an arbitrary finite group. Recall that the rank of a module M over an integral domain R is defined as the maximal number of R -linearly independent elements of M . It equals the dimension of $F \otimes_R M$, where F is the field of fractions of R .

Theorem 1. *Let \mathbb{F} be a field and let $G \leq \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{F})$ be a finite group. Then $(\Omega^1)^G$ has rank n .*

Proof. First, we show that the rank is at most n . To this end, suppose that $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_m$ are $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -linearly independent 1-forms. Since G is finite, the fraction field of $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ equals $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$, the field of invariant rational functions on V (see, for example, [18], Prop. 1.2.4). Consequently, $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_m$ are linearly independent over $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$. We claim they are in fact linearly independent over $\mathbb{F}(V)$, thus forcing $m \leq n$. Assume the contrary and consider a nontrivial $\mathbb{F}(V)$ -linear relation among

the ω_i of minimal length, i.e., $\sum_{j=1}^k f_j \omega_{i_j} = 0$ for a subset $\{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$ of $\{1, \dots, m\}$ of minimal size and with coefficients $f_j \in \mathbb{F}(V)$. Without loss of generality we may assume that $f_1 = 1$ and $f_2 \in \mathbb{F}(V) \setminus \mathbb{F}(V)^G$. Let $g \in G$ be an element for which $gf_2 \neq f_2$. Then

$$0 = (1 - g)(0) = (1 - g) \left(\sum_{j=1}^k f_j \omega_{i_j} \right) = \sum_{j=2}^k (f_j - gf_j) \omega_{i_j}$$

is a nontrivial relation (since $f_2 - gf_2 \neq 0$) of length $k - 1$, contradicting the minimality of k .

Next, we prove that the rank is at least n by constructing n linearly independent invariant 1-forms as follows. Let z_1, \dots, z_n be a basis of V^* and consider the union U of the orbits of the z_i under G . The Chern classes c_i of $U = \{u_1, \dots, u_r\}$ are defined as the coefficients of the polynomial

$$\prod_{i=1}^r (T - u_i) = T^r + c_1 T^{r-1} + \dots + c_r \in \mathbb{F}[V]^G[T].$$

Consider the Jacobian matrix J of the c_i with respect to z_1, \dots, z_n . By the chain rule, we may write

$$J = \left(\frac{\partial c_i}{\partial u_j} \right) \cdot \left(\frac{\partial u_j}{\partial z_k} \right).$$

The first matrix is the Jacobian of the elementary symmetric polynomials c_i in the elements u_j of U , which has nonzero determinant and thus full rank. The second matrix has rank n since $\{z_1, \dots, z_n\} \subseteq U$. Consequently, the rank of J is n . This implies that we may choose n Chern classes c_i for which the differential 1-forms dc_i are linearly independent over $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ (since the wedge product of those dc_i equals the nonzero determinant of the corresponding $n \times n$ -minor of J multiplied with $dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$).

□

3. REFLECTION GROUPS AND POINTWISE STABILIZERS

An element of finite order in $\text{Gl}(V)$ is a **reflection** if its fixed point space in V is a hyperplane, called the **reflecting hyperplane**. There are two types of reflections: the diagonalizable reflections in $\text{Gl}(V)$ have a single nonidentity eigenvalue which is a root of unity; the nondiagonalizable reflections in $\text{Gl}(V)$ are called **transvections** and have determinant 1 (note that they can only occur if the characteristic of \mathbb{F} is positive).

Suppose $H \leq V$ is a hyperplane defined by a linear form l_H in V^* ($\ker l_H = H$), and let s be a reflection about H . Then there exists a vector $\alpha_s \in V$ for which

$$s(v) = v + l_H(v) \alpha_s \quad \text{for all } v \in V,$$

the **root vector** of s (with respect to l_H). Note that a transvection is a reflection whose root vector (called a **transvection root vector**) lies in its reflecting hyperplane, i.e., $l_H(\alpha_s) = 0$.

A **reflection group** is a finite group G generated by reflections. The subgroup

$$G_H := \{g \in G : g|_H = \text{id}_H\}$$

is the **pointwise stabilizer** of H in G . The set of transvections in G_H together with the identity forms a normal subgroup K_H , the kernel of the determinant $\det : G_H \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^\times$. Each G_H is generated by K_H together with a diagonalizable reflection s_H of maximal order $e_H := |G_H : K_H|$. If none of the reflections about H are diagonalizable, we set $s_H = 1$. In fact, each G_H is isomorphic to a semi-direct product

$$G_H \cong K_H \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/e_H\mathbb{Z}.$$

The **transvection root space** of G_H is the subspace of H generated by the root vectors of transvections in G_H . Let b_H be its dimension. We remark that $b_H = \text{codim}((V^*)^{K_H})$, which can be seen by putting the elements of K_H into simultaneous upper triangular form. If $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_p$ is a prime field, then $|G_H| = e_H p^{b_H}$ (the formula becomes more complicated for larger fields, see [9], Lemma 2.1).

Lemma 2. *If H and H' are hyperplanes in the same G -orbit, then $e_H = e_{H'}$ and $b_H = b_{H'}$.*

Proof. Let $H' = gH$ for some $g \in G$. If r is a reflection about H and $g \in G$, then grg^{-1} is a reflection about gH . Consequently, $G_{H'} = G_{gH} = gG_Hg^{-1}$, and the claim follows. \square

The following easy fact can be found, e.g., in [10], Section 18.2.

Lemma 3. *If s is a reflection about the hyperplane H and f is a polynomial, then $s(f) - f$ is divisible by l_H .*

The next lemma is rather technical, but it is a key ingredient to the freeness results in this article, and it highlights the importance of the numbers e_H and b_H . If $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_m\} \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$ is an ordered subset, and $z_1, \dots, z_n \in V^*$, we write dz_I for the product $dz_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge dz_{i_m}$.

Lemma 4. *Suppose H is a hyperplane defined by $l_H \in V^*$ and G_H is a group of reflections about H . Let K_H denote the kernel of the determinant character on G_H , and let s_H in G_H be a diagonalizable reflection of order e_H . Let v_1, \dots, v_n be a basis of V with the following properties:*

- v_1, \dots, v_{n-1} form a basis of H
- v_1, \dots, v_{b_H} are \mathbb{F} -independent root vectors (with respect to l_H) of transvections in K_H , and
- $v_n \notin H$ is an eigenvector for s_H with $l_H(v_n) = 1$.

(Such a basis always exists.) Let z_1, \dots, z_n be the dual basis of V^* . Then

- (1) Let μ be a form invariant under K_H , and write $\mu = \sum_I u_I dz_I$. Suppose that $J \cap \{1, \dots, b_H\} \neq \emptyset$ and $n \notin J$. Then l_H divides u_J .
- (2) Moreover, if μ is G_H -invariant, then u_J is divisible by $l_H^{e_H}$.

Proof. Let J be as above, and let $m \in J \cap \{1, \dots, b_H\}$. Let $t_m \in K_H$ be a transvection with root vector v_m . Note that t_m sends dz_i to dz_i for $i \neq m$ and dz_m to $dz_m - dz_n$. In particular, dz_I is invariant under t_m if I contains both n and m .

Let σ be the transposition switching m and n . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_I u_I dz_I &= \mu = t_m(\mu) \\
&= \sum_I t_m(u_I) t_m(dz_I) \\
&= \sum_{I: m \notin I} t_m(u_I) dz_I + \sum_{I: m, n \in I} t_m(u_I) dz_I + \sum_{I: m \in I; n \notin I} t_m(u_I) (dz_I \pm dz_{\sigma(I)}) \\
&= \sum_I t_m(u_I) dz_I + \sum_{I: m \in I; n \notin I} \pm t_m(u_I) dz_{\sigma(I)} \\
&= \sum_I t_m(u_I) dz_I + \sum_{I: m \notin I; n \in I} \pm t_m(u_{\sigma(I)}) dz_I \\
&= \sum_{I: m \in I \text{ or } n \notin I} t_m(u_I) dz_I + \sum_{I: m \notin I; n \in I} t_m(u_I) \pm t_m(u_{\sigma(I)}) dz_I.
\end{aligned}$$

Equating polynomial coefficients, we find that if $m \notin I$ and $n \in I$, then

$$u_I = t_m(u_I) \pm t_m(u_{\sigma(I)}) = t_m(u_I) \pm u_{\sigma(I)} \quad \text{and thus} \quad t_m(u_I) - u_I = \pm u_{\sigma(I)}$$

(whereas u_I is invariant in all other cases). By Lemma 3, this implies that u_J is divisible by l_H (as $J = \sigma(I)$ for some such I).

For the second statement, we may assume $G_H \neq K_H$, i.e., $s_H \neq 1$ (otherwise, we are in the situation of (1)). Note that $s := s_H$ sends dz_i to dz_i for $i \neq n$ and dz_n to $\lambda^{-1} dz_n$ where $\lambda := \det(s)$. Since μ is invariant under s ,

$$\sum_I u_I dz_I = \sum_{I: n \notin I} s(u_I) dz_I + \sum_{I: n \in I} \lambda^{-1} s(u_I) dz_I.$$

Comparing coefficients shows that u_J is invariant. But since l_H divides u_J and λ has order e_H , u_J must in fact be divisible by $l_H^{e_H}$. \square

4. A CRITERION FOR FREENESS OF INVARIANT 1-FORMS

Let G be a finite group generated by reflections. Consider the collection $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{A}(G)$ of reflecting hyperplanes for G , the **reflection arrangement** of G . For a linear character $\chi : G \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^\times$ of the group (acting on V) and a G -module M , let $M^G := \{m \in M : gm = m\}$ and $M_\chi^G := \{m \in M : gm = \chi(g)m\}$, the module of invariants and χ -invariants (relative invariants with respect to χ), respectively. Let $\det : G \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^\times$ be the determinant character of G (acting on V). Define

$$Q_{\det} := \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{e_H - 1},$$

where e_H is as defined in the last section.

The following proposition is due to Stanley [21] for $K = \mathbb{C}$. Nakajima [13] proves a more general statement for arbitrary fields. A proof in the flavor of Stanley's original argument can be found in Smith [19].

Proposition 5. *Let G be a reflection group. Then*

$$\mathbb{F}[V]_{\det}^G = \mathbb{F}[V]^G Q_{\det}.$$

A similar statement is true for arbitrary linear characters of G , see Proposition 18.

If the characteristic of \mathbb{F} is zero (or more generally, if the group G does not contain transvections), the group and its reflection arrangement can be recovered from Q_{\det} alone (as this polynomial encodes the orders of the reflections about the hyperplanes as well as the hyperplanes themselves). Moreover, it detects generators for invariant differential forms: The analogue of Saito's criterion for invariant 1-forms (this is a special case of a theorem of Orlik and Solomon, [14], Theorem 3.1) asserts that invariant 1-forms $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ generate $(\Omega^1)^G$ if $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n \doteq Q_{\det} dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$ for one and hence for any basis z_i of V^* (we write $a \doteq b$ to indicate that $a = cb$ for some $c \in \mathbb{F}^\times$).

However, in the general setting, G contains transvections and Q_{\det} does not carry enough information; we need another polynomial to encode characteristics of the transvection root space. Let $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ be the multi-arrangement of hyperplanes formed by assigning multiplicity $e_H b_H$ to each H in \mathcal{A} . Then $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ is defined by the polynomial

$$Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) := \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{e_H b_H}.$$

Note that $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) = 1$ when all the reflections in G are diagonalizable.

Fix a basis z_1, \dots, z_n for V^* and let vol be the volume form $dz_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dz_n$. Consider invariant 1-forms $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$. Then $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n = f vol$ for some polynomial $f \in \mathbb{F}[V]$. Since vol is \det^{-1} -invariant, f must be \det -invariant. In particular, Q_{\det} must divide f by Proposition 5. The analogue of Saito's criterion fails for groups which contain transvections because f is actually divisible by a polynomial of higher degree, $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})Q_{\det}$.

Lemma 6. *Suppose $G \leq \mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F})$ is a reflection group. If $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ are invariant 1-forms, then $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})Q_{\det}$ divides $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n$.*

Proof. Fix a hyperplane $H \in \mathcal{A}$. We choose a basis of V and V^* as in Lemma 4. If μ is any invariant 1-form and we write $\mu = \sum_i u_i dz_i$, then by the same lemma, the first b_H coefficients u_i are divisible by $l_H^{e_H}$. Consequently, the wedge product of any n invariant 1-forms is divisible by $l_H^{e_H b_H}$. Since the linear forms defining different hyperplanes are relatively prime, $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$ divides $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n$.

Because $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$ is invariant, the quotient $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n / Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})$ is invariant and can be written as $f vol$ for some \det -invariant polynomial f . By Proposition 5, f is divisible by Q_{\det} , proving the claim. \square

The above lemma indicates the alteration needed for the criterion to hold in all characteristics.

Theorem 7. *Suppose $G \leq \mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F})$ is a reflection group. Suppose $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ are invariant 1-forms with*

$$\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n \doteq Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})Q_{\det} vol.$$

Then $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ is a basis for the set of invariant 1-forms as a free module over the ring of invariants, $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$:

$$(\Omega^1)^G = \bigoplus_i \mathbb{F}[V]^G \omega_i.$$

Proof. Since $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n$ is nonzero, the forms $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ are linearly independent over the field of fractions $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$ of $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$, and thus span $\mathbb{F}(V)^G \otimes_{\mathbb{F}[V]^G} (\Omega^1)^G$ as

a vector space over $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$. Let ω be an invariant 1-form, and write $\omega = \sum_i h_i \omega_i$ with coefficients $h_i \in \mathbb{F}(V)^G$. Fix some i for which $h_i \neq 0$ and consider $\omega \wedge \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_{i-1} \wedge \omega_{i+1} \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$. Up to a nonzero scalar, this equals

$$h_i \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n = h_i Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) Q_{\det} \text{ vol.}$$

By Lemma 6, the product $\omega \wedge \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_{i-1} \wedge \omega_{i+1} \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$ is divisible by $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) Q_{\det}$ and $h_i \in \mathbb{F}[V] \cap \mathbb{F}(V)^G = \mathbb{F}[V]^G$. \square

5. AN ALGEBRA STRUCTURE ON INVARIANT DIFFERENTIAL FORMS

Let G be a finite reflection group. In this section, we explain how one can endow Ω^G with the structure of a free exterior algebra when $(\Omega^1)^G$ is a free $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module and the transvection root space of each pointwise stabilizer is maximal. (Here, each transvection root space has dimension $b_H = n - 1$ and coincides with the hyperplane H .) We use a twisted wedge product to expose the free exterior algebra structure.

The lemma below holds for arbitrary finite subgroups of the general linear group, not just reflection groups (with \mathcal{A} defined as the arrangement associated to the subgroup generated by reflections).

Lemma 8. *Let $G \leq \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F})$ be a finite group, and suppose μ, ν are G -invariant forms. Then*

$$\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1}) := \prod_{\substack{H \in \mathcal{A} \\ b_H = n-1}} l_H^{e_H}$$

divides $\mu \wedge \nu$.

Proof. Let H be a reflecting hyperplane for which the transvection root space of G_H is maximal. Fix a basis z_1, \dots, z_n as in the hypothesis of Lemma 4. Then by the same lemma, if $\emptyset \neq I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n-1 = b_H\}$ is an index set, $l_H^{e_H} = z_n^{e_H}$ must divide the coefficient u_I in $\mu = \sum u_I dz_I$. A similar statement is true for ν , and so $\mu \wedge \nu$ is divisible by $l_H^{e_H}$. The claim now follows from the fact that the linear forms defining different hyperplanes are relatively prime. \square

Remark 9. The polynomial $\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})$ may be interpreted as the **discriminant polynomial** for the arrangement $\mathcal{A}_{n-1} := \{H \in \mathcal{A} : b_H = n-1\}$ of hyperplanes with maximal transvection root spaces. In the theory of complex reflection groups, the discriminant polynomial is a product of linear forms defining the reflecting hyperplanes with each linear form raised to the power $e_H = |G_H|$, the maximal order of a (diagonalizable) reflection about the corresponding hyperplane. It is an invariant polynomial of minimal degree which vanishes on the reflection arrangement.

Theorem 10. *Let $G \leq \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F})$ be a finite group which has polynomial invariants and suppose that the transvection root space of the pointwise stabilizer of any reflecting hyperplane is maximal. If $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ are invariant 1-forms with*

$$\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n \doteq Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) Q_{\det} \text{ vol,}$$

then they generate Ω^G as a free exterior $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -algebra under the twisted wedge product

$$(\mu, \nu) \mapsto \frac{\mu \wedge \nu}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})}.$$

Proof. Fix $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. For each ordered index set $I = \{i_1, \dots, i_k\}$ of length k consider the k -form

$$\omega_I := \frac{\omega_{i_1} \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_{i_k}}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})^{k-1}},$$

which is invariant by Lemma 8. To prove the theorem, it suffices to show that these forms constitute a basis for $(\Omega^k)^G$ as an $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module. Since $\omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n$ is nonzero, the ω_I are linearly independent over the field of fractions $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$ and thus form a basis of $\mathbb{F}(V)^G \otimes_{\mathbb{F}[V]^G} (\Omega^k)^G$.

Let ω be an invariant k -form and write $\omega = \sum_I h_I \omega_I$ with coefficients $h_I \in \mathbb{F}(V)^G$. We will show that these coefficients lie in $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$. To this end, fix some I for which $h_I \neq 0$ and consider the complementary (ordered) index set $J = \{1, \dots, n\} \setminus I$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\omega \wedge \omega_J}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})} &= \frac{h_I \omega_I \wedge \omega_J}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})} \\ &\doteq \frac{h_I \omega_1 \wedge \dots \wedge \omega_n}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})^{1+|I|-1+|J|-1}} \\ &\doteq \frac{h_I Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) Q_{\det}}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})^{n-1}} \text{ vol.} \end{aligned}$$

By assumption, the arrangements \mathcal{A}_{n-1} and \mathcal{A} are the same for G (as $b_H = n-1$ for each H), and thus

$$\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})^{n-1} = \prod_{\substack{H \in \mathcal{A} \\ b_H = n-1}} l_H^{e_H(n-1)} = \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{b_H e_H} = Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}).$$

Hence,

$$\frac{\omega \wedge \omega_J}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})} \doteq h_I Q_{\det} \text{ vol},$$

and the coefficient $h_I Q_{\det}$ is a det-invariant polynomial. By Proposition 5, it is divisible by Q_{\det} , which shows that $h_I \in \mathbb{F}[V] \cap \mathbb{F}(V)^G = \mathbb{F}[V]^G$. \square

6. SPECIAL CLASSES OF GROUPS

In this section, we explain how to obtain generating 1-forms from a set of basic invariants for three classes of reflection groups: groups fixing a single hyperplane pointwise, groups containing the special linear group, and unipotent groups. A similar pattern can be seen in other examples of reflection groups with polynomial rings of invariants (in fact, in all other examples that we have examined). An interesting question is whether these examples are instances of a more general phenomenon. Throughout this section, $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_q$ is a finite field of characteristic p .

6.1. Pointwise Stabilizers of Hyperplanes. This subsection deals with groups of reflections about a single hyperplane. We show how to produce generating invariant 1-forms from the exterior derivatives of basic invariants as given in [9], proof of Proposition 2.3. More precisely, we prove that those 1-forms are obtained by dividing by suitable powers of the linear form that defines the hyperplane under consideration:

Theorem 11. *Let V be a vector space of dimension n over a finite field $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_q$. Let $G \leq \text{Gl}(V)$ be a finite group which fixes a hyperplane $H \leq V$ pointwise, and let e_H be the maximal order of a diagonalizable reflection in G . Let l_H be a linear form*

defining H . Then there exist basic invariants f_1, \dots, f_n of G and natural numbers a_i ($i = 1, \dots, n-1$) so that

$$\frac{df_1}{(l_H^e)^{a_1}}, \dots, \frac{df_{n-1}}{(l_H^e)^{a_{n-1}}}, df_n$$

generate $(\Omega^1)^G$ as an $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module.

Corollary 12. *If $G \leq \text{Gl}(V)$ is a finite group which fixes a hyperplane pointwise, then $(\Omega^1)^G$ is a free $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module.*

The corollary is a direct consequence of the theorem since the 1-forms df_1, \dots, df_n are linearly independent over $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$.

Proof of Theorem. The invariant ring $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ is a free polynomial algebra. We use the inductive description of the basic invariants given in [9] (Proposition 2.3) and show that the theorem holds in every step of the construction by applying Theorem 7.

We begin by choosing a basis z_1, \dots, z_n of V^* as in Lemma 4. Fix a set of generating elements $\{s, t_1, \dots, t_r\}$ of G , where s is a diagonalizable reflection in G of order $e := e_H$, each t_i is a transvection, and r is minimal. We successively consider the groups $G_i = \langle s, t_1, \dots, t_i \rangle$.

There is nothing to prove for $G_0 = \langle s \rangle$, since this is a nonmodular group and we can choose all a_i to be zero (cf. [3], Theorem 7.3.1).

Suppose the theorem holds for G_k , and let f_1, \dots, f_n be basic invariants for G_k with degrees d_i and numbers a_i as in the statement, with $f_n = l_H^e$. By [9], Proposition 2.3, we know that the degrees d_i are p -powers for $i < n$ where p is the characteristic of \mathbb{F} .

To construct a set of basic invariants for G_{k+1} , we relabel the f_i as follows: Among all f_i of minimal degree not invariant under t_{k+1} , we choose one with maximal number a_i and label this polynomial f_1 (note that we refine the choice in the original procedure at this point: a posteriori it will become apparent that in fact all the f_i under consideration have the same a_i).

Define $f'_n := f_n$ (which is invariant under G_{k+1}), and $a'_n := a_n = 0$. Define f'_2, \dots, f'_{n-1} by $f'_i := f_i + c_i f_1^{\frac{d_i}{d_1}}$ where the constants c_i are chosen so that the f'_i are invariant under G_{k+1} (see [9], proof of Proposition 2.3). Then

$$df'_i = df_i + c_i \frac{d_i}{d_1} f_1^{\frac{d_i}{d_1}-1} df_1.$$

We record the change in the a_i : either $d_i = d_1$, in which case df'_i is divisible by $f_n^{\min\{a_i, a_1\}} = f_n^{a_i}$, or $d_i > d_1$, which implies that p divides $\frac{d_i}{d_1}$ and $df'_i = df_i$. In either case, we define $a'_i := a_i$ for $i \neq 1$ so that $(f'_n)^{a'_i} = (l_H^e)^{a_i}$ divides df'_i .

We next take the product over the orbit of f_1 to produce a polynomial f'_1 invariant under t_{k+1} . Define

$$h(X) = \prod_{a \in A} (X + az_n^{d_1}) \in \mathbb{F}[z_n][X],$$

where A is a certain additive subgroup of \mathbb{F} (defined in loc. cit.) of order $|\mathbb{F}_p(\lambda)|$ and $\lambda = \det(s)$. Let $m = (|A| - 1)/e$. The polynomial $h(X)$ is additive and thus all exponents on X in h are p -powers. Let $f'_1 = h(f_1)$. Then

$$df'_1 = d(f_1 cz_n^{d_1(|A|-1)}) = cz_n^{d_1(|A|-1)} df_1 + f_1 cd_1(|A|-1) z_n^{d_1(|A|-2)} dz_n,$$

where $c = \prod_{a \in A \setminus \{0\}} a$. If $d_1 \neq 1$, the second term is zero and we can set $a'_1 = a_1 + d_1 m$.

If $d_1 = 1$, then $a_1 = 0$ and the highest power of f_n dividing the new form is f_n^{m-1} ; hence we set $a'_1 = m - 1$.

In order to apply the criterion (Theorem 7), we need to consider the product of the forms $\omega_i := df'_i / f_n^{a'_i}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n &= l_H^{-e \sum_{i=1}^n a'_i} J(f'_1, \dots, f'_n) \text{ vol} \\ &\doteq l_H^{-e \sum_{i=1}^n a'_i} J(f_1, \dots, f_n) z_n^{d_1(|A|-1)} \text{ vol} \\ &= l_H^{d_1(|A|-1) - e(a'_1 - a_1)} Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(G_k)) Q_{\det} \text{ vol}, \end{aligned}$$

where $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(G_k))$ is the polynomial defining $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ for G_k (a power of l_H) and J denotes the determinant of the Jacobian matrix (see proof of Proposition 2.3 of [9]).

We consider two cases. The first case occurs when the dimension of the transvection root space of G_k is the same as that of G_{k+1} . Since this dimension is $\text{codim}((V^*)^{K_H})$, the groups G_k and G_{k+1} have the same number of *linear* invariants, and thus $d_1 > 1$. Then $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(G_k)) = Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(G_{k+1}))$, and

$$\frac{l_H^{d_1(|A|-1)}}{l_H^{e(a'_1 - a_1)}} = 1,$$

so the ω_i satisfy the criterion. The second case occurs when the dimension of the transvection root space increases. In this case, $d_1 = 1$, and $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(G_{k+1})) = Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}(G_k)) l_H^e$ by definition. Since

$$\frac{l_H^{d_1(|A|-1)}}{l_H^{e(a'_1 - a_1)}} = \frac{l_H^{d_1(|A|-1)}}{l_H^{e(a'_1)}} = l_H^e,$$

the criterion is satisfied in this case as well. \square

Remark 13. The point of Theorem 11 is not primarily to provide generating forms. In fact, it is easy to see that the forms

$$\begin{aligned} &z_n^{e_H} dz_1 - z_1 z_n^{e_H-1} dz_n, \quad z_n^{e_H} dz_2 - z_2 z_n^{e_H-1} dz_n, \quad \dots, \quad z_n^{e_H} dz_k - z_k z_n^{e_H-1} dz_n, \\ &dz_{k+1}, \dots, dz_{n-1}, \quad z_n^{e_H-1} dz_n \end{aligned}$$

generate $(\Omega^1)^G$, where $k := b_H$ is the dimension of the transvection root space of G . The theorem shows more: There exist basic invariants so that generators can be produced from their exterior derivatives. In fact, generators are found by dividing the exterior derivatives by (powers of) linear forms defining the reflecting hyperplane.

6.2. Groups containing the special linear group. We turn to the case when the finite group G contains $\text{Sl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$, i.e., $\text{Sl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) \leq G \leq \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$ for a finite field \mathbb{F}_q . Such groups are parametrized by the order e of their image under the determinant homomorphism $\det : \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q^\times$. Note that all these groups are generated by reflections (those generating Sl_n plus a diagonalizable reflection with eigenvalue of order e), and all of them have a polynomial ring of invariants (see for example, [18],

comment after Theorem 8.1.8). With this example, we illustrate the notation used in this paper as well as some of the results.

We summarize the setup: Since $\mathrm{Sl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) \leq G$, every hyperplane in V is a reflecting hyperplane, and there are $\frac{q^n-1}{q-1}$ such hyperplanes, since there are $q^n - 1$ nonzero elements in V^* , $q - 1$ of which are nonzero scalar multiples of any fixed one (and thus define the same hyperplane). This describes the reflection arrangement \mathcal{A} . The multi-arrangement $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ is defined via the numbers e_H and b_H for each hyperplane H . All hyperplanes are in the same G -orbit, so in fact e_H and b_H do not depend on H . Since G contains $\mathrm{Sl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$, $b_H = n - 1$ for every H and all transvection root spaces are maximal. Moreover, $e_H = e$, the order of the image of G under the determinant homomorphism. Consequently, $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) = \prod_{H \leq V} l_H^{(n-1)e}$, and its degree is $\frac{(q^n-1)e(n-1)}{q-1}$.

We first describe generators for the module of 1-forms invariant under the full group $\mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$. The ring of invariant polynomials $\mathbb{F}[V]^{\mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}$ is called the **Dickson algebra**, and the **Dickson invariants**

$$d_{n,i} := \sum_{\substack{W \leq V \\ \mathrm{codim} W = i}} \prod_{\substack{v \in V^*, \\ v|_W \neq 0}} v$$

of degree $q^n - q^i$ (for $i = 0, \dots, n-1$) form a set of basic invariants. The determinant of the Jacobian matrix of the Dickson invariants is

$$J = \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{(n-1)(q-1)+(q-2)}$$

(see [9], Section 4). Hence, by Theorem 7, $(\Omega^1)^{\mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}$ is a free $\mathbb{F}_q[V]^{\mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)}$ -module generated by the exterior derivatives of the Dickson invariants.

We use the exterior derivatives of the Dickson invariants to construct generators for $(\Omega^1)^G$. Consider a hyperplane $H \leq V$, and choose a basis z_1, \dots, z_n for V^* as in Lemma 4. The polynomials

$$f_1^H := z_1^q - z_1 z_n^{q-1}, \quad \dots, \quad f_{n-1}^H := z_{n-1}^q - z_{n-1} z_n^{q-1}, \quad f_n^H := z_n^{q-1}$$

are invariant under the pointwise stabilizer $\mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)_H$ and algebraically independent. The product of their degrees equals $(q-1) \cdot q^{n-1} = |\mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)_H|$, so by [5], Theorem 7.3.5.,

$$\mathbb{F}[V]^{\mathrm{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)_H} = \mathbb{F}[f_1^H, \dots, f_n^H].$$

Consequently, there are polynomials p_i for which $d_{n,i} = p_i(f_1^H, \dots, f_n^H)$. Then

$$\frac{\partial d_{n,i}}{\partial z_j} = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial d_{n,i}}{\partial f_k^H} \frac{\partial f_k^H}{\partial z_j}$$

by the chain rule. Since $\mathrm{char}(\mathbb{F}) = p > 0$, $\frac{\partial f_k^H}{\partial z_j}$ is divisible by $z_n^{q-2} = l_H^{q-2}$ (for all k, j), and the same is true for $d(d_{n,i})$. In particular, each $d(d_{n,i})$ is divisible by $f := \prod_{H \leq V} l_H^{q-e-1}$, which is invariant under G . We may therefore define forms

$$\omega_i := \frac{d(d_{n,i-1})}{f} \in \Omega^G.$$

Their wedge product is

$$\begin{aligned}
\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n &= d(d_{n,0}) \wedge \cdots \wedge d(d_{n,n-1}) \cdot f^{-n} \\
&= \frac{J}{f^n} \text{vol} \\
&\doteq \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{(n-1)(q-1)+(q-2)-n(q-e-1)} \text{vol} = \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{ne-1} \text{vol} \\
&= \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{(n-1)e+(e-1)} \text{vol} = Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}})Q_{\det} \text{vol}.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, by Theorem 7, $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ generate $(\Omega^1)^G$ as a free $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module.

Moreover, Theorem 10 implies that Ω^G is a free algebra under the twisted wedging

$$(\mu, \nu) \mapsto \frac{\mu \wedge \nu}{\delta(\mathcal{A}_{n-1})} = \frac{\mu \wedge \nu}{\prod_{H \leq V} l_H^e}.$$

In the case $G = \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_p)$, generators for the invariant forms as a module over the Dickson algebra were given by Mui ([12]) in terms of Vandermonde-like determinants. He also lists the relations among those generators under the usual wedging. The above calculation simplifies his approach.

Remark 14. Alternatively, for $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_p$, one may start with generators of the set of 1-forms invariant under $\text{Sl}_n(\mathbb{F}_p)$ listed in [1], Definition III.2.8 (following Mui's work), which are \det^{-1} -invariant under $\text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_p)$. Multiplying these by Q_{\det} produces forms invariant under G . A calculation similar to the one above then shows that they generate $(\Omega^1)^G$ as a module, and more generally, Ω^G as a free algebra under the twisted wedging.

Remark 15. The pattern in the above example holds in greater generality when $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_q$ is a finite field. Suppose $G \leq \text{Gl}(V)$ has basic invariants f_1, \dots, f_n and every reflecting hyperplane for G has a diagonalizable reflection of maximal order $q-1$ (as in the case $G = \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$). One can then prove that $(\Omega^1)^G$ is a free $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$ -module generated by df_1, \dots, df_n . In fact, if $G' \leq G$ is any subgroup with polynomial invariants sharing the same reflection arrangement, $(\Omega^1)^{G'}$ is a free $\mathbb{F}[V]^{G'}$ -module provided each transvection root space for G' is maximal (as in the case $\text{Sl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q) \leq G' \leq \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$). As above, dividing each df_i by $\prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{q-e_H-1}$ produces generators for $(\Omega^1)^{G'}$ from basic invariants for G .

6.3. Unipotent Groups. Another example is given by the unipotent group $G = \text{U}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$, which we regard in its representation as lower triangular matrices of determinant 1.

Consider the polynomials

$$\begin{aligned}
f_1 &:= z_1 \\
f_2 &:= \prod_{\alpha_1 \in \mathbb{F}_q} (z_2 + \alpha_1 z_1) \\
&\vdots \\
f_n &:= \prod_{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{n-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_q^{n-1}} (z_n + \alpha_{n-1} z_{n-1} + \cdots + \alpha_1 z_1).
\end{aligned}$$

These polynomials are invariant under G , algebraically independent, and have degrees $1, q, \dots, q^{n-1}$. Since the product of these degrees is exactly the order of $G = \text{U}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$, they form a set of basic invariants by [5], Theorem 7.3.5.

Remark 16. Note that $f_i = \prod_{\substack{H \in \mathcal{A} \\ b_H = n-i}} l_H$. In fact, f_i is the product over the G -orbit of any fixed l_H with $b_H = n - i$.

Lemma 17. *With notation as above, df_k is divisible by $\prod_{i < k} f_i^{q-2}$ for $k = 1, \dots, n$.*

Proof. Because each df_k is invariant, and because f_i is the product over the orbit of z_i , it suffices to show that z_i^{q-2} divides df_k for each $i < k$. We show that z_i^{q-2} divides $\frac{\partial f_k}{\partial z_l}$ for each $i < k$ and each $l = 1, \dots, n$.

For $i < k$, rewrite

$$\begin{aligned} f_k &= \prod_{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_{k-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k-1}} (z_k + \alpha_{k-1}z_{k-1} + \dots + \alpha_1z_1) \\ &= \prod_{\bar{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \dots, \widehat{\alpha_i}, \dots, \alpha_{k-1}) \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k-2}} \prod_{\alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}_q} (z_k + \alpha_{k-1}z_{k-1} + \dots + \alpha_1z_1) \\ &= \prod_{\bar{\alpha} \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k-2}} \prod_{\alpha_i \in \mathbb{F}_q} (z_{\bar{\alpha}} + \alpha_i z_i) \\ &= \prod_{\bar{\alpha} \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k-2}} (z_{\bar{\alpha}}^q - z_i^{q-1} z_{\bar{\alpha}}), \end{aligned}$$

where $z_{\bar{\alpha}} = z_k + \alpha_{k-1}z_{k-1} + \dots + \widehat{\alpha_i}z_i + \dots + \alpha_1z_1$. Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial z_l} &= \sum_{\bar{\alpha} \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k-2}} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_l} (z_{\bar{\alpha}}^q - z_i^{q-1} z_{\bar{\alpha}}) \prod_{\bar{\beta} \neq \bar{\alpha}} (z_{\bar{\beta}}^q - z_i^{q-1} z_{\bar{\beta}}) \right) \\ &= \sum_{\bar{\alpha} \in \mathbb{F}_q^{k-2}} \left(\left(z_i^{q-2} \delta_{il} z_{\bar{\alpha}} - z_i^{q-1} \frac{\partial z_{\bar{\alpha}}}{\partial z_l} \right) \prod_{\bar{\beta} \neq \bar{\alpha}} (z_{\bar{\beta}}^q - z_i^{q-1} z_{\bar{\beta}}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

which is divisible by z_i^{q-2} as claimed (δ_{il} is the Kronecker delta symbol). \square

Moreover, the calculation in the above proof shows that $\frac{\partial f_k}{\partial z_k}$ is divisible by z_i^{q-1} (since the term involving δ_{ik} is zero), and thus by $\prod_{i < k} f_i^{q-1}$. The degree of this product is $(q-1)(1+q+\dots+q^{k-1}) = q^k - 1$, which is also the degree of $\frac{\partial f_k}{\partial z_k}$, so $\frac{\partial f_k}{\partial z_k} = \prod_{i < k} f_i^{q-1}$.

We assert that the 1-forms $\omega_k := \frac{df_k}{\prod_{i < k} f_i^{q-2}}$ generate $(\Omega^1)^G$. To see this, consider

the Jacobian matrix of the f_i . Note that $\frac{\partial f_k}{\partial z_l} = 0$ if $l > k$, so this is a lower triangular matrix, and its determinant J is the product of its diagonal entries:

$$J = \prod_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial f_k}{\partial z_k} = \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \prod_{i < k} f_i \right)^{q-1}.$$

Consequently,

$$\begin{aligned}
\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n &= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \prod_{i < k} f_i \right)^{2-q} df_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge df_n \\
&\doteq \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \prod_{i < k} f_i \right)^{2-q} J \text{ vol} \\
&= \left(\prod_{k=1}^n \prod_{i < k} f_i \right) \text{ vol} \\
&= \prod_{i=1}^n f_i^{n-i} \text{ vol} \\
&= \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{b_H} \text{ vol} \quad \text{by Remark 16} \\
&= Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) \text{ vol} = Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}) Q_{\det} \text{ vol}
\end{aligned}$$

since $e_H = 1$ for all H , and the claim follows by Theorem 10.

For $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{F}_p$, another description of this module of invariant forms can be found in [12].

7. INVARIANTS RELATIVE TO A CHARACTER

The results in Section 4 have generalizations to relative invariants with respect to a linear character of the reflection group G . We first define the corresponding arrangements and polynomials. For any linear character χ of G , define

$$Q_\chi := \prod_{H \in \mathcal{A}} l_H^{a_H},$$

where a_H is the smallest nonnegative integer satisfying $\chi(s_H) = \det^{-a_H}(s_H)$. Stanley proved [21] the following analogue of Proposition 5 for complex reflection groups (again, the proof extends to arbitrary characteristic, see the remarks in Section 4).

Proposition 18. *If G is a reflection group, then $\mathbb{F}[V]_\chi^G = \mathbb{F}[V]^G Q_\chi$.*

We next define a χ -version of the multi-arrangement $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$. Let $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi$ be the multi-arrangement defined by the polynomial

$$Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) = \prod_{\substack{H \in \mathcal{A} \\ \chi(s_H)=1}} l_H^{e_H b_H}.$$

The following generalizes results from Shepler [15].

Lemma 19. *Suppose $G \leq \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F})$ is a reflection group and let χ be a linear character of G . If $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ are χ -invariant 1-forms, then $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) Q_\chi^{n-1} Q_{\chi \cdot \det}$ divides $\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$.*

Proof. Fix some reflecting hyperplane $H \in \mathcal{A}$ with diagonalizable reflection $s := s_H$ of (maximal) order e_H . Choose a basis of V and V^* as in Lemma 4. Then s sends dz_i to dz_i for $i \neq n$ and dz_n to $\lambda^{-1} dz_n$ where $\lambda := \det(s)$.

Let μ be any χ -invariant 1-form and write $\mu = \sum_i u_i dz_i$. As before, let K_H be the set of elements of determinant 1 in G_H . Since $\chi(K_H) = 1$, μ is K_H -invariant and thus by the first part of Lemma 4, z_n divides the first b_H coefficients of μ .

We now consider the action of the diagonal group element s on μ . Since μ is χ -invariant and $\lambda^{-a_H} = \chi(s)$,

$$\lambda^{-a_H} \sum_i u_i dz_i = \chi(s)\mu = s(\mu) = \sum_{i \neq n} s(u_i) dz_i + \lambda^{-1} s(u_n) dz_n.$$

Consider the i -th coefficient, with $i < n$. Then $s(u_i) = \lambda^{-a_H} u_i$ and hence $z_n^{a_H}$ divides u_i . Thus the first $n-1$ coefficients of μ are divisible by $z_n^{a_H}$. And when $\chi(s) = 1$, more is true: the first b_H coefficients of μ are in fact divisible by $z_n^{e_H}$ by the second part of Lemma 4. (Recall that $0 \leq a_H < e_H$.)

Thus, $\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$ is divisible by $l_H^{a_H(n-1)}$. And when $\chi(s) = 1$, then $\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$ is divisible by $l_H^{e_H b_H}$. Since $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi)$ and Q_χ^{n-1} have no common factors, it follows that $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) Q_\chi^{n-1}$ divides $\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$.

Because $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi)$ is invariant and Q_χ is χ -invariant, $\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n (Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) Q_\chi^{n-1})^{-1}$ is a χ -invariant n -form, i.e., equals $f \text{vol}$ for some $(\chi \det)$ -invariant polynomial f (as vol is \det^{-1} -invariant). By Proposition 18, f is divisible by $Q_{\chi \det}$. So $\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$ is in fact divisible by $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) Q_\chi^{n-1} Q_{\chi \det}$. \square

Theorem 20. *Suppose $G \leq \text{Gl}_n(\mathbb{F})$ is a reflection group. Let χ be a linear character of G . Suppose $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ are χ -invariant 1-forms with*

$$\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n \doteq Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) Q_\chi^{n-1} Q_{\chi \det} \text{vol}.$$

Then $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ is a basis for the set of χ -invariant 1-forms as a free-module over the ring of invariants, $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$:

$$(\Omega^1)_\chi^G = \bigoplus_i \mathbb{F}[V]^G \omega_i.$$

Proof. The proof is completely analogous to the proof of Theorem 7: Since $\omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$ is nonzero, the forms $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$ are linearly independent over the field of fractions $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$ of $\mathbb{F}[V]^G$, and thus span $\mathbb{F}(V)^G \otimes_{\mathbb{F}[V]^G} (\Omega^1)_\chi^G$ as a vector space over $\mathbb{F}(V)^G$. Let ω be a χ -invariant 1-form, and write $\omega = \sum_i h_i \omega_i$ with coefficients $h_i \in \mathbb{F}(V)^G$. Fix some i for which $h_i \neq 0$ and consider $\omega \wedge \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_{i-1} \wedge \omega_{i+1} \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n$. Up to a nonzero scalar, this equals

$$h_i \omega_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \omega_n \doteq h_i Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) Q_\chi^{n-1} Q_{\chi \det} \text{vol}.$$

By Lemma 19 above, the product is divisible by $Q(\tilde{\mathcal{A}}_\chi) Q_\chi^{n-1} Q_{\chi \det}$, i.e., $h_i \in \mathbb{F}[V]^G$. \square

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IWR, UNIVERSITY OF HEIDELBERG, IM NEUENHEIMER FELD 368, 69121 HEIDELBERG, GERMANY
E-mail address: julia.hartmann@iwr.uni-heidelberg.de

DEPT. OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS, P.O. BOX 311430, DENTON, TX, 76203
E-mail address: ashepler@unt.edu